

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1-8 (canceled).

9. (New) A device for measuring weight, comprising:

an expansion unit configured to be elongated under the influence of the weight; and
a sensor system for measuring a degree of elongation of the expansion unit, wherein the degree of elongation is determined based on a transit time of a measuring wave within the expansion unit.

10. (New) The device as recited in Claim 9, wherein the measuring wave is a mechanical wave.

11. (New) The device as recited in Claim 10, wherein the mechanical wave is in the ultrasonic range.

12. (New) The device as recited in Claim 9, wherein the sensor system uses a pulse echo method to measure the transit time.

13. (New) The device as recited in Claim 11, wherein the expansion unit is an ultrasonic probe provided on a vehicle seat, wherein the ultrasonic probe is adapted to be coupled mechanically with an element of the vehicle seat.

14. (New) The device as recited in Claim 13, wherein the ultrasonic probe is configured to be distorted by at least one of bending and torsion.

15. (New) The device as recited in Claim 14, wherein the ultrasonic probe is located in a seat mounting.

16. (New) The device as recited in Claim 13, wherein the element of the seat is at least a part of one of the seat surface and the backrest.